



"Last spring, we gathered a number of human service providers and others ... We could not sustain the [boom times] spending levels but we had to keep our commitments to the most needy."

—Mayor Greg Nickels

## Priority: Building Community

### **Taking care of the basics: Invest in human services and protect the Safety Net**

Mayor Nickels' "back to basics" human services budget funds core services such as food banks, homeless shelters, young people, elderly people and people who have been victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The budget makes no reductions to core human services.

Counting just one department, the City will invest \$24 million of local dollars in social services. That's more than double invested in 1995, and not far from levels reached in the last two years of the boom economy. The mayor's budget does more for the sick, the poor, the homeless and the hungry -- those who are found in what Hubert Humphrey once called the "shadow of life."

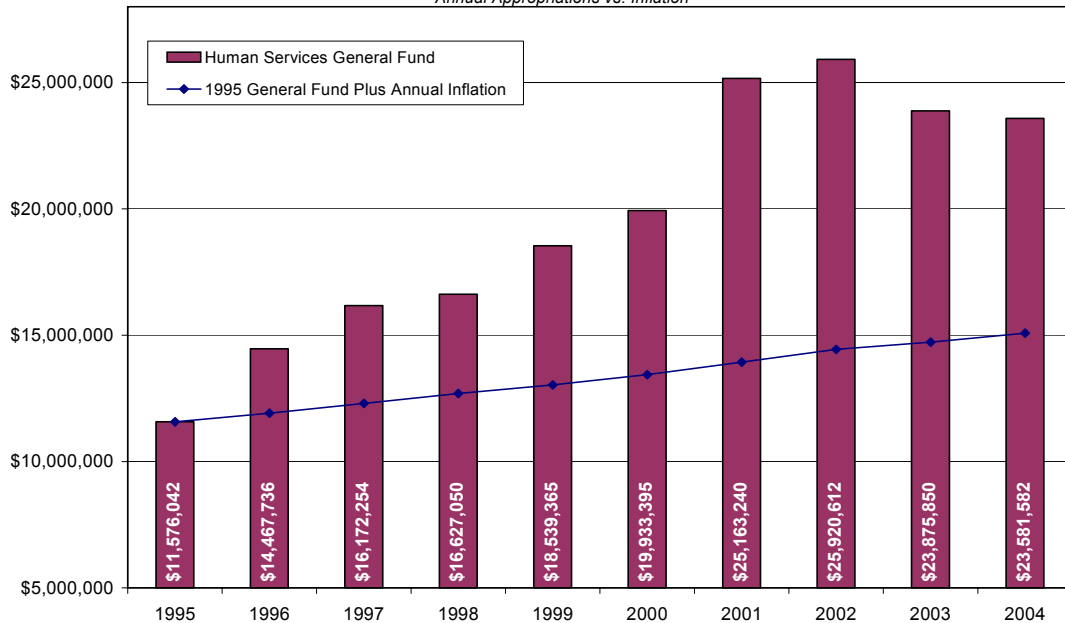


### **SOME OF THE CORE SERVICES FUNDED IN MAYOR'S NICKELS' BUDGET**

- ✓ Over 14,000 older persons – many from immigrant and refugee communities – will receive 764,390 nutritious meals.
- ✓ 3,824 older adults or their families from ethnic communities will receive information and assistance on how to access services.
- ✓ 1,604 older frail seniors living in public housing will receive case management services so they can remain in stable housing.
- ✓ Over 4,200 people with disabilities will receive assistance and case management services, so they can remain in independent living situation.
- ✓ Over 200 frail, isolated African American elders will be connected to services that enable them to remain in their homes.
- ✓ Over 400 older volunteers will be connected to community volunteer activities.
- ✓ Over 270 older job seekers will be assisted and placed in unsubsidized jobs.

## Human Services Department General Fund

*Annual Appropriations vs. Inflation*



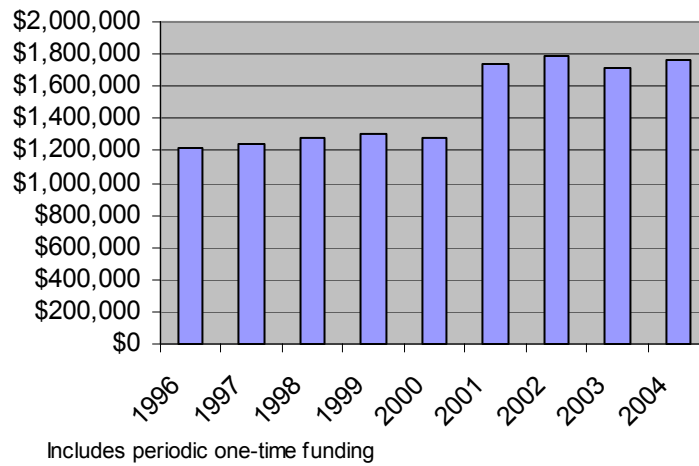
- ✓ \$932,021 in 2003 to help 3,800 households maintain the housing that they currently have, instead of losing their housing and then picking up the pieces afterward.
- ✓ \$5.5 million for 98,000 nights of safe shelter for homeless women, families, and men.
- ✓ \$419,006 to provide 472,000 hot meals for those who would otherwise go hungry.
- ✓ \$1.6M a year to help over 530 families pay for child care so that they can work or complete job training.
- ✓ \$800,000 to help over 1300 youth who are at-risk of dropping out of school succeed academically with help from tutors and caring adults in quality after-school programs.
- ✓ Youth employment program has been able to leverage one dollar in federal money for every dollar of the \$900,000 we spend in city resources to help over 650 young people learn job skills and increase their academic performance.
- ✓ Delivers 570,000 bags of groceries to local food banks.
- ✓ Provides 300,000 for emergency meals.
- ✓ Provides shelter and rental assistance, transitional housing for 1,168 families, day care for 975 children and 764,000 hot meals for seniors.

## WHAT'S BEING CUT?

To manage a \$60 million budget gap, Mayor Nickels directed all City departments to reduce costs. HSD followed the mayor's directive to cut overhead first, services last.

HSD looked at its internal overhead and administration, finding reductions of \$1,405,273. Additional cuts of \$2,654,767 were made to non-core services. Community-based agencies receive no inflationary adjustments. Core services will be funded at 2002 levels, but non-core services (see attachment) will be reduced by approximately 15 percent.

**City of Seattle  
Emergency Food Programs  
1996-2004**



**City of Seattle Homeless  
Assistance/Transitional Housing  
1996-2004**

